

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PANAMA 00289 132238Z  
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 CU-02 DHA-02 MCT-01 SY-05  
/061 W

-----132245Z 034960 /64

O R 132125Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 361  
INFO PANCANAL  
USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 0289

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PN, PQ  
SUBJECT: "CRITICA" ACCUSATIONS AGAINST GOVERNOR PARFITT

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. FRONT PAGE OF JANUARY 13 "CRITICA"  
CARRIES ARTICLE ACCUSING GOVERNOR OF THE CANAL ZONE HAROLD R.  
PARFITT OF HAVING WANTED SOMEONE TO BE KILLED IN THE JANUARY 9  
PANAMANIAN STUDENT DEMONSTRATION IN THE ZONE. TRANSLATION OF  
THE ARTICLE FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN QUOTE: (HEADLINE) THE 'GOVERNOR OF WHAT' WANTED A  
DEATH ON THE 9TH.

BEGIN TEXT: QUOTE CANAL ZONE GOVERNOR HAROLD R. PARFITT,  
ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AND COMMENTARIES LEAKED BY  
EMPLOYEES OF THE PANAMA CANAL INFORMATION OFFICE, EXPRESSED  
DISGUST BECAUSE NOBODY DIED IN THE ACTION WHICH PANAMANIAN  
STUDENTS TOOK ON JANUARY 9 IN THE CANAL ZONE.

QUOTE OUR REPORTERS ARE ABLE TO INFORM THAT GOVERNOR PARFITT  
COMPLAINED AND REPRIMANDED HIS SUBORDINATES IN CHARGE OF  
SECURITY CONTROL IN THE CANAL ZONE FOR NOT HAVING STOPPED, EVEN  
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WITH VIOLENCE, THE STUDENTS WHO MARCHED THROUGH ZONIAN STREETS,  
AND RAISED THE PANAMANIAN FLAG ALONG THE LENGTH OF THEIR MARCH,  
AND FOR NOT HAVING STOPPED THE SAME STUDENTS FROM BURNING  
A SWASTIKAED U.S. FLAG.

QUOTE OUR SOURCE OF INFORMATION ALSO STATED THAT THE GOVERNOR  
OF THE ZONE EXPRESSED HIS OPINION THAT THE ACTION OF THE

PANAMANIAN STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE BEEN REPRESSED THROUGH THE USE OF RIOT CONTROL METHODS INCLUDING TEAR GAS GRENADES, SHOT GUNS, AND OTHER WEAPONS. END QUOTE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. "CRITICA" IS "CONTROLLED" BY THE PANAMANIAN AUTHORITIES (PRIMARILY NATIONAL GUARD G-2 NORIEGA); BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT EVERY ARTICLE HAS BEEN CLEARED IN ADVANCE. HOWEVER, IN THIS CASE, WE DOUBT THAT SUCH AN INFLAMMATORY ARTICLE COULD HAVE APPEARED WITH NORIEGA'S APPROVAL.

4. AMBASSADOR STRONGLY PROTESTED THIS STORY IN HIS CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER BOYD TODAY (SEE SEPTEL). EMBASSY IS CONSIDERING WHAT FURTHER ACTIONS IT MAY TAKE. END CONFIDENTIAL.  
JORDEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, BORDER INCIDENTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009